

MINUTES

A regular meeting of the China Grove Town Council

**Tuesday, December 7th, 2010
7:00 p.m.**

**China Grove Town Hall
China Grove, North Carolina**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Bringle called the meeting of December 7, 2010 to order and welcomed all in attendance to join in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Bringle called roll. All council members were present, there was a quorum. The meeting started at 7:00 pm at the Municipal Building.

Mr. Withers made a motion to adopt the agenda for the regular meeting of the Town Council on December 7, 2010 with an addition under Public Hearing II) Street Closing – Florence Street and a Closed Session for personnel matters. Mr. Linn seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Withers made a motion to adopt the November 2, 2010 regular meeting minutes with a correction to page 6. Mr. Seaford seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Upright made a motion to adopt the November 18, 2010 special meeting minutes. Mr. Seaford seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

There were no comments from the public.

Mayor Bringle thanked the staff for their hard work concerning the South Rowan Christmas Parade. He also thanked the China Grove Beautification Committee for their work on decorating downtown and at Town Hall. He also invited the public to attend the “Journey to Bethlehem” event.

PUBLIC HEARING

I) Project “CGTUSTR”

Mr. Robert Van Geons stated that he is present to provide information concerning a project that he is asking the Council to consider. He stated that they work with new industry to increase jobs in Rowan County. He stated that they estimate a net revenue gain of \$169,000. He stated it would also improve an old building as well as create new jobs. He stated that they provided an economic impact study for the Council’s review. He stated that representatives of the company are in attendance. Mr. David Roberts spoke to the Council. Mr. Van Geons reviewed the average wage of employees of \$26,500 which is 15% above regional average for this industry. He also stated that are asking that the Council match a 75% return on the new tax revenue for five years, still seeing an increase in the tax base.

Mr. Upright asked what happens to the plant on Main Street.

Mr. Roberts stated that eventually the plant on Main Street would be leveled.

Mayor Bringle opened the Public Hearing for Consideration of Relocation and Expansion Assistance Agreement.

There were no comments.

Mayor Bringle closed the Public Hearing.

Mr. Upright made a motion to move forward. Mr. Withers seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

II) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)

Mr. Robert Van Geons stated that he wanted to clarify first that this public hearing is not related to the previous project. He clarified the need for the public hearing.

Mayor Bringle opened the Public Hearing for the Community Development Block Grant.

There were no comments.

Mayor Bringle closed the Public Hearing.

Mr. Linn made a motion to move forward with the Community Development Block Grant. Mr. Withers seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mayor Bringle thanked the representatives of Tuscarora for being present and their business within China Grove. He stated that the Town is of assistance to them when needed.

III) Street Closing – Florence Street

Mayor Bringle opened the Public Hearing for the Street Closing of Florence Street.

There were no comments.

Mayor Bringle closed the Public Hearing.

Mr. Upright made a motion to close Florence Street. Mr. Linn seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

I) Call for Public Hearing for Interim Financing – USDA Project

Mr. Ken Deal stated that the Council needs to call a Public Hearing at the next meeting for interim financing for the USDA project.

Mr. Withers made a motion to call a Public Hearing for January 4, 2010. Mr. Seaford seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

II) Consideration of North Carolina Railroad License Agreement

Mr. Deal stated that they met with a representative of NC Railroad and stated that this agreement is something that is needed in writing. He stated that the Town already maintains the properties.

Mr. Brooke stated that he believes it puts some of the liability on us and doesn't believe that this benefits the Town. He stated that he would like to look into this matter further.

Mayor Bringle requested that the item be tabled until the January meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS

I) Consideration of Town Seal

Mayor Bringle stated that there are generations of seals that are under consideration for adoption. He stated that if they go with the "new" Town Seal, the letterhead and other paperwork will need to be updated. He stated that he is open to review.

Mr. Withers stated that they should consider which seal looks the best and not what supplies we have. He stated that he understands the history behind the second generation of the seal. He stated that the “new” seal is progressive looking.

Mr. Withers made a motion to officially adopt the new Town Seal. Mr. Upright seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

CLOSED SESSION – Personnel Matters

Mr. Seaford made a motion to go into Closed Session for personnel matters - Town Manager evaluations with a five minute remission. Mr. Withers seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Seaford made a motion to come out of Closed Session. Mr. Linn seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

There was no action taken.

Mayor Bringle stated that 150 Cherry Street has been demolished.

Mr. Overcash asked what is wrong with the leaf pickup. He stated that S. Myrtle is not being collected.

Mr. Deal stated that one leaf machine had been broken down but is now fixed. He also stated that if there are cars in the way, they are not able to pickup.

Mayor Bringle stated that he spoke with Mr. Ketner and they are in the area that they are scheduled to be in and will go back to collect in the areas when possible.

Mayor Bringle thanked Mr. Deal for his effort and communication with citizens and employees. He stated that he appreciates his visibility as well.

Mayor Bringle stated that one of the fire trucks is in need of repair in the amount of approximately \$60,000.

Mr. Deal stated that he went to see the truck with the Fire Chief. He stated that the repairman promises that we could get 10-15 more years of use once repaired.

Mayor Bringle stated that they would like to see a Planning Retreat held in February of next year and they could discuss the purchase of a new truck at that time.

Mr. Deal stated that he is still looking for rental space for Town Hall once the USDA project begins.

Mayor Bringle stated that Mr. Reed Linn had been in contact with Mr. Deal concerning a map of homes in our fire district in their town limits. He stated that this item will be brought back to the Council at a future meeting.

ADJOURN

Mr. Withers made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Linn seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amanda A. Eller, Town Clerk

Donald E. Bringle, Mayor